

III. REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 13-23, 27-32 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Amin (US 6,014,559) in view of Quinn (US 5,944,786).

The claimed invention differs from the references in that the claimed invention contacts a specific address based on said notification message.

The Examiner has cited Quinn, col. 9, ll. 22-26, for this feature. However, these lines merely state that the individual calls the voice messaging system in general, not that he dials an address specific to the message.

Also, the references fail to disclose the claimed erasing the notification message responsive to the procedure related to contacting a specific address. In Quinn there are two options disclosed: a) that a remote end sends a deactivation signal to turn off the LED (col. 7, ll. 51-54, col. 8, ll. 15-27, col. 9, ll. 31-40, col. 10, ll. 20-21) and b) that a reset switch 95 (col. 8, ll. 38-46, not drawn) is provided for the user to clear the notification without need to retrieve the e-mail notified. Hence, Quinn never erases from the memory of the terminal a notification as presently claimed, i.e., responsive to the procedure related to the contacting.

Further, there is no freeing of space by erasing data (notification message(s)), unlike the presently claimed invention. Hence, clearing is not equal to erasing. It is known in the relevant art that clearing merely resets the value of a

physical register or memory space, while erasing frees that register or memory space also for other use.

Thus, combining Amin and Quinn does not result in the claimed invention. Hence the rejection of the above claims should be withdrawn.

Claims 9-12, 24-26 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Amin and Quinn in view of Kaisto.

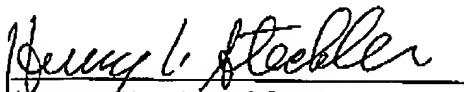
Similarly, Kaisto fails to disclose the above features. Thus the rejection of these claims should be withdrawn.

Further, claim 21 recites that separate notifications are stored for separate messages. Col. 8, ll. 55-62, of Quinn merely states that these are a plurality of messages, while col. 9, ll. 22-26, merely discuss dialing for a single message. For this additional reason, claim 21 is patentable.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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Sept. 26, 2005
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